

REMARKS

Claims 46-90 are pending in the application. Claims 46-90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as described in paragraph 5 of the Office Action. Claim 64 was rejected, as described in paragraph 6 of the Office Action. Claims 46-48, 50, 52, 62, 74-75, 77-78, 84-86 and 88-89 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as described in paragraph 7 of the Office Action. Claims 63-67, 69-70, 72-73, 80-83 and 90 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as described in paragraph 8 of the Office Action. Claims 53-61, 76, 79 and 87 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as described in paragraph 9 of the Office Action. Claims 49 and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as described in paragraph 10 of the Office Action. Claims 68 and 71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as described in paragraph 11 of the Office Action. Claims 46, 63, 74, 77, 80, 82, 84 and 90 are the only independent claims.

As discussed in the Response filed May 6, 2004, neither one of Yoshino et al. (Yoshino), Takahashi et al. (Takahashi) or Tsutsumitake teaches or suggests:

when a state of a device is changed, the device transmits updated screen display data to a controller or to update the operating screen upon receiving updated screen display data from the device, as required in independent claim 46; that a device transmits screen display data and identification information to a controller through the transmission path, transmits updated display data to the controller when a state of the device changes, receives the identification information of the screen display data and operation information indicative of operation by user and operates based on the received identification information and operation information, as required in independent claim 74; a controller that receives updated screen display data from a device when the state of the device changes, instructs a display to update the operating screen on the display when updated display data is received and in response to an operation by a user to the operating screen, controls the device by transmitting operation information indicative of the operation and the identification information to the device through the transmission path, as required in independent claim 77; transmitting, when a state of a device changes, updated screen display data for updating an operation screen of the device from the device through the transmission path to a controller and updating the operating screen on the controller when the controller receives the updated screen display data, as required in independent claim 84; that when a state of a device is changed, the device transmits to a controller through the transmission path, updated partial screen display data corresponding

to partial screen display data in which the change of state of the device is to be reflected or that the controller is operable to receive the updated partial screen data and update the partial screen display data, in which the change of state of the device is to be reflected, with the updated partial screen display data, as required in independent claim 63; that a device is operable to transmit to a controller updated partial screen display data corresponding to partial screen display data in which a change of state of the device is to be reflected, as required in independent claim 80; that a device is operable to receive updated partial screen display data corresponding to partial screen display data in which a change of state of a device is to be reflected and to update the operating screen on the display using the updated partial screen display data, as required in independent claim 82; or when a state of the device is changed, transmitting updated partial screen display data corresponding to the partial screen display data in which the change of state of a device is to be reflected or updating the operating screen on a controller using the updated partial screen display data, as required in independent claim 90.

The Advisory Action dated June 23, 2004 asserts that the Applicants arguments “mainly centered on the Yoshino reference for failing to teach ‘when a state of said device is changed, the device transmits updated screen display data to said controller.’” The Advisory Action then further states as follows:

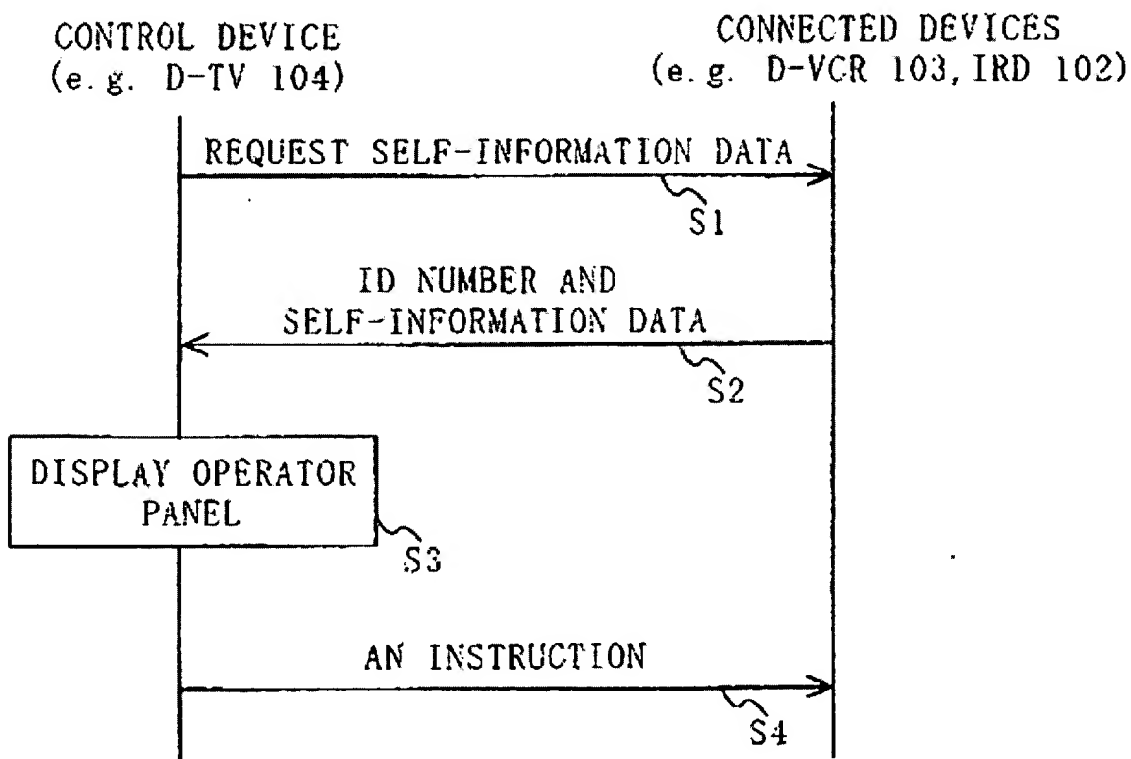
as indicated in the rejection of the previous Office Action, per figures 15, 18 and 19, Yoshino indeed does teach such a limitation. Per figure 19, it is shown that each of the functions of "Stop" 1907, "Play" 1908", and "Rec" 1909 has an indicator, e.g. the square, triangle, and circle indicators, associated therewith. These indicators lie right below the respective functions. Each of the indicator is "lighted" when the associated function is activated. In this case shown in figure 19, the "Rec" function is being activated; thus, the round indicator below the "Rec" function is shown as lighted or solid in color. **It can be concluded that when a different function than the currently activated function is activated, the state of the device, in this case the DVCR, is changed and shown via the function indicator. The screen of the interface is updated and sent to the controller for display.** (Emphasized)

Applicants respectfully traverse the above-discussed and emphasized Examiner’s assertion and submit that claims 46-90 are patentable over the prior art of record for the following reasons.

As discussed in the Response filed May 6, 2004, and as discussed in detail below, Yoshino fails to teach that when a state of the device is changed, the device transmits updated screen display data to the controller. Further, as discussed in the Response filed May 6, 2004, and discussed in further detail below, Yoshino fails to teach or suggest receiving updated screen display data when a state of the device is changed and to instruct the display to display the operating screen using the screen display data to update the operating screen upon receiving the updated screen display data from the device.

In particular, as discussed in detail below, **the present invention** requires the device (that is being controlled by a controller) to transmit updated screen display data to the controller **when the state of the device is changed**. On the contrary, Yoshino teaches that the controller transmits an instruction to the device wherein the instruction instructs the device to change its state. Further, **Yoshino** teaches that the device transmits updated screen display data to the controller **only when the controller requests information from the device**.

The following Reference Figure illustrates a sequence diagram of a process according to FIGs. 15, 18 and 19 and as discussed column 8, line 63 through column 9, line 13 of Yoshino.



As illustrated in Step S1 of the Reference Figure, Yoshino discloses that, for example, in column 11, lines 18-20, a control device (e.g. D-TV 104) sends a request to connected devices for a self information data. At Step S2 of the Reference Figure, in response to the request, each of the connected devices of Yoshino transmits its ID number and self-information data to the control device (col. 11, line 20-21). As illustrated in Step S3 of the Reference Figure and shown in FIG. 15 in Yoshino, when one of the connected devices is selected, the control device displays an operator panel (as shown in FIG. 18 and 19) based on the self-information data (col.11, line 49-51, col.11, line 65-67). On the displayed operator panel, a user touches a button to give an operational instruction (col.11, line 54-55, and col.12, line 2-3). Finally, in response to this, as illustrated in Step S4 of the Reference Figure, the control device transmits an instruction to the selected connected device (col.12, line 16-26).

One aspect of the present invention includes the device to be controlled by the controller, transmitting screen display data and identification information to the controller. This aspect can be considered to be disclosed in Yoshino, for example, Step S2 as discussed above. Another aspect of the present invention includes the controller displaying the operating screen based on the screen display data. This aspect can be considered to be disclosed in Yoshino, for example, Step S3 as discussed above. Still another aspect of the present invention includes the controller controlling the device. This aspect can be considered to be disclosed in Yoshino, for example, Step S4 as discussed above).

Nevertheless, Yoshino does not disclose that "when a state of the device is changed, the device transmits updated screen display data to the controller" or "the controller is operable to receive the screen display data and the identification information from the device through the transmission path, to receive the updated screen display data when a state of the device is changed, to instruct the display to display the operating screen using the screen display data." These features correspond to "STATE CHANGE" and "SCREEN INFORMATION 121" as shown, for example, in FIG.5 in the present application.

More specifically, as required, for example, in Claim 46, when a state of the device is changed, the device transmits updated screen display data and ID information. In other words, the device transmits the updated screen display data and ID information automatically without requiring

any screen request from the controller. Whereas in Yoshino, screen display data and ID information are transmitted from the connected device **only after a user initiates a screen request**.

In light of the above discussion, Yoshino fails to teach, or suggest that which is discussed above (and which is discussed in the Response filed May 6, 2004) of claims 46, 74, 77, 84, 63, 80, 82 and 90. Furthermore, for the reasons as discussed in the Response filed May 6, 2004, it is additionally respectfully submitted that Takahashi and Tsutsumitake additionally fails to teach the shortcomings of Yoshino such that a combination of the teachings of Yoshino, Takahashi and Tsutsumitake would teach that which is required in each of independent claims 46, 62, 74, 77, 80, 82, 84 and 90, within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103.


In light of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that claims 46-90 are patentable over the prior art of record within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Having fully and completely responded to the Office Action, Applicants submit that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

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